



I hereby certify that this correspondence  
is being deposited with the United  
States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an  
envelope addressed to: Assistant  
Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C. 20231, on 28 day of April 2002  
s/ Jan Hostasa  
Jan Hostasa

1771  
Attorney Docket No.: 24764A  
#7  
O. Quiles  
4/17/02

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Ables )

Serial No.: 09/593,550 ✓ )  
Confirmation No. 7906 ✓ )

Filed: June 14, 2000 ✓ )

For: String Binders and Method for Making Same ✓ )

Group Art Unit: 1771

Examiner: Guarriello ✓

**RECEIVED**  
APR 15 2002  
TC 1700

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 11, 2002, the Examiner has imposed a restriction requirement requiring Applicants to elect one invention. Applicants hereby provisionally elect claims 17, 18, 22-31 Group (II) with traverse.

While Applicants agree with the Examiner that the subject matter of Groups I and II are independent and patentably distinct, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related and that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one.

If any questions should arise with respect to the above remarks, or if it would in any way expedite the prosecution of this case, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

James J. Dottavio  
Reg. No. 40,360  
Owens Corning  
2790 Columbus Road, Bldg. 54  
Granville, OH 43023  
(740) 321-7167

Date: 3-26-02